

## Legislative Update

January 18, 2013 | Day 5 of the 105-day legislative session

### Legislature Kicks Off, Governor Sworn In, Committees Get to Work

This week in Olympia, statewide elected officials and the members of the House and Senate took their oaths of office. In the State Senate, as expected, the Majority Coalition Caucus—including the Republicans and two Democrats—took control.

On Tuesday, Gov. Gregoire delivered the final State of the State address of her 8-year tenure. We also had a House budget hearing on Gov. Gregoire's request budget.

On Wednesday, Gov. Jay Inslee was sworn in and delivered his inaugural address. Gov. Inslee has spent time since his election developing his agenda and gathering his team of advisors, policy staff, and department directors.

Gov. Inslee recently named several key players to his staff, including his new Legislative and Policy Director, Ted Sturdevant, who most recently served as the Director of the Department of Ecology. Other recent hires include:

- Deputy Policy Director, Kirstan Arestad, who previously served as the Assistant Director at the Washington State Department of Transportation and managed the natural resources budgets at the Office of Financial Management and Senate Ways and Means Committee.
- Executive Director of Communications, David Postman, a well-known former political reporter for the Seattle Times and most recently Director of Communications and Media for Vulcan Inc.
- Director of the Office of Financial Management, David Schumacher, who previously managed the Senate Ways and Means staff and worked for Boeing as a lobbyist.

### 2013 Legislature at a glance

#### Information:

- For up-to-date legislative information, visit: [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)
- To watch or listen to a legislative hearing, visit: [www.tvw.org](http://www.tvw.org)
- For both current and previous copies of the Legislative Report, visit: [www.psp.wa.gov](http://www.psp.wa.gov)

#### Communication and Coordination:

If you are planning to testify on a bill, meet with legislators or would like help connecting with a legislator about Puget Sound issues—please contact Michael Grayum, the Partnership's Public Affairs Director at 360-628-1907.

Also on Wednesday, the House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee held an informational work session about derelict vessels and previewed legislation that the Department of Natural Resources will introduce that includes feedback and insights from the members of the Puget Sound Oil Spill Work Group. The presentation begins at minute 22:00:

[http://www.tvw.org/index.php?option=com\\_tvplayer&eventID=2013011050](http://www.tvw.org/index.php?option=com_tvplayer&eventID=2013011050)

On Thursday, the House Local Government Committee held an informational work session about the Shoreline Management Act and the State Environmental Policy Act. The presentation begins at minute 56.25:

[http://www.tvw.org/index.php?option=com\\_tvplayer&eventID=2013011036](http://www.tvw.org/index.php?option=com_tvplayer&eventID=2013011036)

On Friday, the House Local Government Committee held a work session about the Growth Management Act.

[http://www.tvw.org/index.php?option=com\\_tvplayer&eventID=2013010069](http://www.tvw.org/index.php?option=com_tvplayer&eventID=2013010069)

## Highlights for next week

There will be fewer work sessions and more hearings on bills recently introduced into the legislative process. We are still analyzing some of the bills below and have not yet taken a position. We will continue to keep you informed and would appreciate your perspective about how these bills would impact our collective effort to restore and protect Puget Sound.

- House Capital Budget hearing on Gov. Gregoire's proposed Capital Budget, House Bill [1089](#), on Monday, Jan. 21, 1:30 p.m. in hearing room B of the John L. O'Brien Building. Public testimony will be received about why it is import to fund the protection and restoration of Puget Sound's highest priority habitat, manage floodplains, and protect and improve water quality.
- House Appropriations Committee work session on Gov. Gregoire's proposed Operating Budget, Monday, Jan. 21, 3:30 p.m.
- House Committee on the Environment hearing on [HB 1113](#) – Concerning standards for the use of science to support public policy, Tuesday, Jan. 22, 8:00 a.m.
- Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Parks on [SB 5054](#) – Establishing a process for the acquisition of habitat and recreation lands by the state, Tuesday, Jan. 22, 1:30 p.m.

- We expect a hearing on Wednesday, Jan. 23, at 8:00 a.m. in the Senate Committee on Energy, Environment & Technology about legislation regarding the Model Toxic Control Act and legislation to accelerate cleanup of hazardous waste sites. Hearings have been scheduled, but the bills have not yet been introduced. Please stay tuned.
- Joint Legislative Audit & Review Committee [briefing report](#) on the Puget Sound Partnership's 2012/13 Action Agenda update in Senate Hearing Room 4, in the Cherberg Building, Wednesday, Jan. 23, 6:00 p.m.
- Senate Committee on Agriculture Water and Rural Economic Development work session about marine and freshwater net pen fish farming in Washington state is Tuesday, Jan. 24, 10:00 a.m.

## Puget Sound Partnership Update

Check out the latest update from the Partnership - highlighting the latest news and our partners in action: <http://us1.campaign-archive1.com/?u=1e527a1c4505cbd9d6662d091&id=51a4a27f3a&e=393d2c30bd>

Our Executive Director, Tony Wright, recently announced that he will transition the helm of the Partnership to a new leader, fulfilling his commitment to return to Normandeau Associates, after much success accelerating action on large-scale, high-impact restoration projects. <http://m.kitsapsun.com/news/2013/jan/18/director-leaving-puget-sound-partnership-after/>

Sign up to receive regular updates from the Partnership about our region's priorities and progress at [http://www.psp.wa.gov/contact\\_simple.php](http://www.psp.wa.gov/contact_simple.php).